

## **OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE**

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Forest Stewardship Plan Development Program Grant Announcement

Grant funding is available through the Mississippi Forestry Commission to tornado damaged land. This grant provides site-specific damage assessment and forest restoration planning for non-industrial private forest landowners whose forests were damaged by tornadoes during April 23-24 and May 1-2, 2010. Assessment and planning will be provided to landowners using methods established under the Forest Stewardship Program, a cooperative forestry assistance program of the USDA Forest Service and state forestry agencies. This grant funding is available to assist landowners in the following Mississippi counties: Attala, Benton, Choctaw, Clay, Holmes, Issaquena, Lafayette, Monroe, Oktibbeha, Sharkey, Tippah, Warren and Yazoo.

Landowners should contract with and apply through their Consulting Forester, whom is a registered forester in the State of Mississippi.

Consulting Foresters who wish to apply should download the grant package from the Mississippi Forestry Commission website: <a href="www.mfc.ms.gov">www.mfc.ms.gov</a> and click on the Tornado Grant link on the home page. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until grant funds are obligated. For more information on the Forest Stewardship Plan Development Grant, go to the Mississippi Forestry Commission's web site: <a href="www.mfc.ms.gov">www.mfc.ms.gov</a>.